CONCLUSION OF THE TRUTH
IT'S A SIMPLE STORY
AND THE KNIGHT WOULD DEFINITELY SAVE HER.
ON COUNTLESS OCCASIONS, THE PRINCESS WAS CAPTURED BY THE DEVIL KING.
IT'S A STORY THAT EVERYONE KNOWS ABOUT.
And also, one thing that almost no one knew about
The story's final chapter.
FOLLOWING WHAT THE DEVIL KING DREW OUT,
THE KNIGHT STOPPED IN HIS TRACKS AND FACED THE OTHER PATH.
IN THE NEXT MOMENT, A TERRIBLE TRAGEDY ENSUED. THE KNIGHT'S TRACE DISAPPEARED AS HE LEFT THE PRINCESS AND HEADED OUT TO THE OTHER PATH THAT WAS HELD BEFORE HIM.
An inexplicable ending.
And so, in the following pages to come, a certain man explained the story.

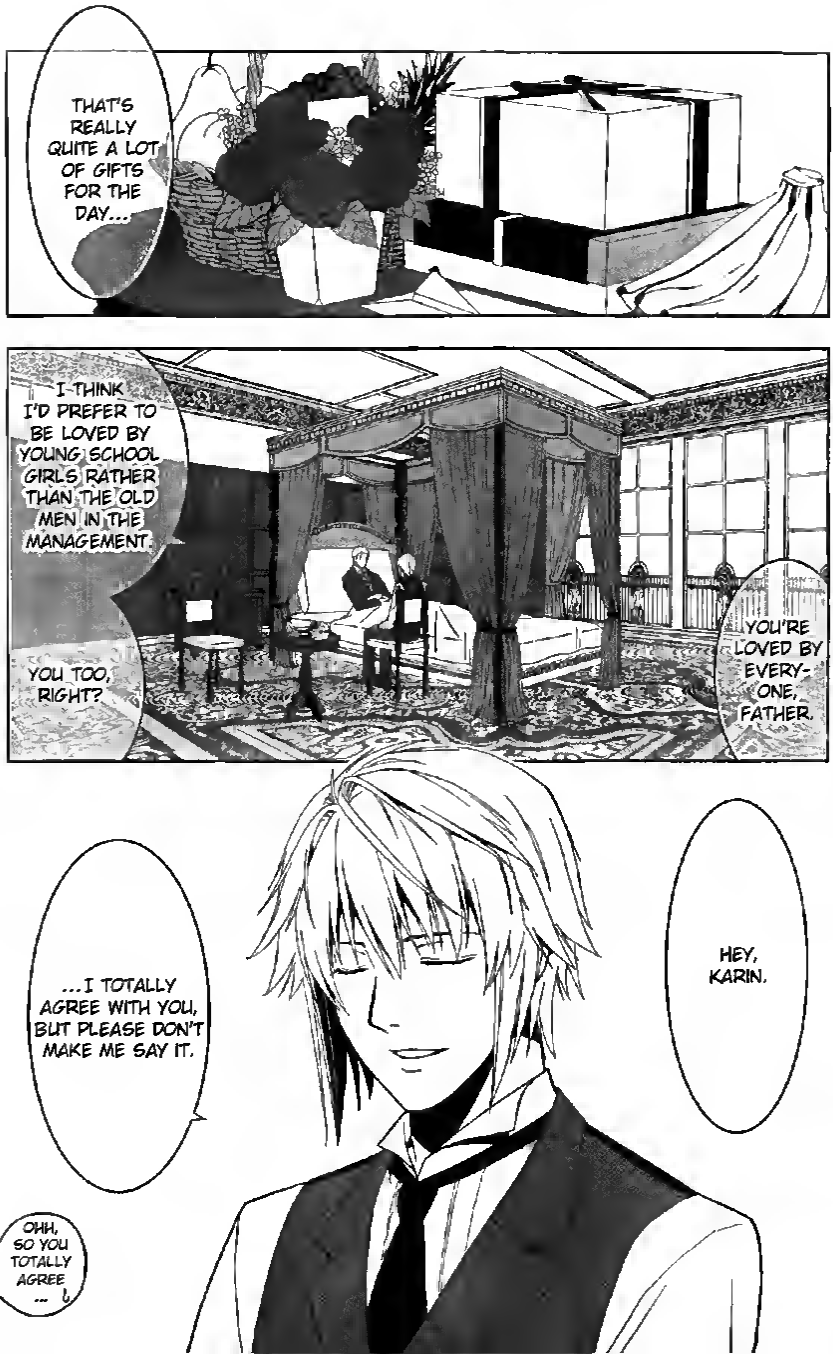
THE RED KNIGHT OF JUSTICE WAS ORIGINALLY A NEUTRAL EXISTENCE.
BUT PRINCESS IX, WHO WANTED TO MONOPOLIZE THE KNIGHT, DEEMED HER COUNTRY AS THE ONE WITH JUSTICE.
AND CONDEMNED EL'S COUNTRY AS THE ONE THAT IS "EVIL."
THE IGNORANT AND KIND KNIGHT BELIEVED IN IX.
AND THE PEOPLE WHO WERE CALLED "EVIL" BY IX TOLD EL THEY WANTED TO KILL HER.
TO ANSWER THE WISHES OF HIS PEOPLE, HE CAPTURED IX.
BUT ALAS, HE FELL IN LOVE WITH HER.

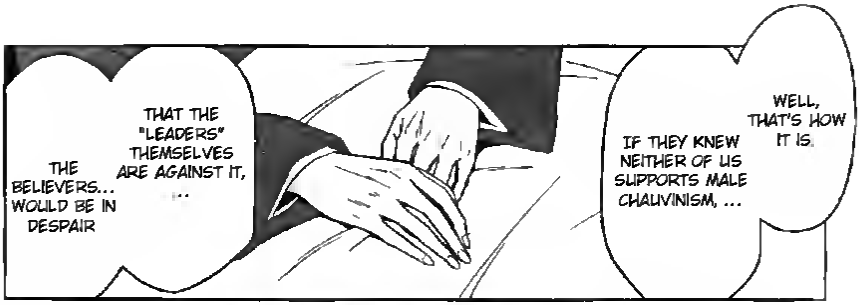
EL SENT SIX MESSENGERS TO THE KNIGHT TO SEEK HIS COOPERATION.
TO END THIS FUTILE CIRCLE OF SUFFERING, AND TO REGAIN PEACE ALL OVER AGAIN,
IN ORDER TO STOP THAT, IX CONVINCED THE KNIGHT THAT THOSE SIX PEOPLE ARE THE SOURCE OF ORIGIN OF THE DEVIL KING'S POWER, AND THAT HE MUST KILL THEM.
HE STOPPED IN HIS TRACKS AND HESITATED.
"WHAT SHOULD I DO IN ORDER FOR EVERYONE TO BE HAPPY?"
BUT IN THE END, THE NAIVE AND KIND KNIGHT REALIZED THE "EVIL" IN IX'S PLANS.
THE DEVIL KING WAS UNABLE TO KILL IX AND THUS DELIBERATELY LOST TO THE RED KNIGHT AND ENTRUSTED HER TO HIM.
BUT IX CONTINUED TO REFER TO THOSE PEOPLE AS "EVIL" AS SHE WANTED TO CONTINUE MONOPOLIZING THE KNIGHT.
AND THE SAME SITUATIONS OCCURRED AGAIN AND AGAIN...

And so, in order to find an answer to that question, the knight went on a journey.

Chapter 21 (continued) The Paradise Story

Naomura Tooru


THAT'S REALLY QUITE A LOT OF GIFTS FOR THE DAY...
I THINK I'D PREFER TO BE LOVED BY YOUNG SCHOOL GIRLS RATHER THAN THE OLD MEN IN THE MANAGEMENT.
YOU TOO, RIGHT?
YOU'RE LOVED BY EVERY-ONE, FATHER.
HEY, KARIN.
...I TOTALLY AGREE WITH YOU, BUT PLEASE DON'T MAKE ME SAY IT.
OHH, SO YOU TOTALLY AGREE ...


WELL, THAT'S HOW IT IS.
IF THEY KNEW NEITHER OF US SUPPORTS MALE CHAUVINISM, ...
THAT THE "LEADERS" THEMSELVES ARE AGAINST IT, ...
THE BELIEVERS... WOULD BE IN DESPAIR

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE SUPPORTED IWAHIJIRI FOR MORE THAN HALF THEIR LIFETIMES, ...
AND THOSE WHO HAVE LOVED IWAHJIRI SO MUCH, ...
IF WE WERE TO TELL THEM THAT THE "IWAHIJIRI THAT THEY HAVE BEEN STRONGLY BELIEVING IN IS ALL A FARCE", ...

I CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO SAY IT... NOT EVEN IN THE FACE OF DEATH.
THREE YEARS AGO WHEN EXCLAN WAS INTRODUCED TO THIS SCHOOL,
HIS EXCELLENCY, PRESIDENT IWAHIJIRI'S TIME IN LIFE WAS LIMITED.

WHAT'S THAT?
THIS IS ONE OF THE INTERPRETATIONS ...
OF THE PARADISE STORY...
楽園物語を読み解く
AROUND THE SAME PERIOD OF TIME, IN THE RURAL COUNTRYSIDE,
THERE WAS A GIRL WHO HELD THE SAME VIEWS AS IWAHIJIRI.
THE KIND AND NAIVE KNIGHT WHO YEARNED FOR EVERYONE'S HAPPINESS...
BUT IN ORDER NOT TO BETRAY OUR FOLLOWERS WHO BELIEVED IN US, WE HAD TO CONTINUE THE TORTURE.
IN TRUE FACT, WE LOVED GIRLS.
HE TOOK OUR HAPPINESS INTO CONSIDERATION. US, WHOM APPEARED TO BE SO "EVIL"...
... THE KNIGHT WAS HERE FOR US.
WE ARE JUST LIKE THE DEVIL KING IN THE PARADISE STORY.

THAT GIRL WAS ORIGINALLY FROM ANOTHER PLACE,

LEADING A HAPPY AND BLISSFUL LIFE WITH HER FAMILY.

IN AN UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENT, SHE LOST HER WHOLE FAMILY,

AND A MALE DISTANT RELATIVE TOOK HER IN.

HER VALUES CHANGED ABRUPTLY.

SINCE THEN,

NO ONE HAS BEEN ABLE TO COMPREHEND HER THOUGHTS OF PARADISE.

SHE HAD GREAT INTELLIGENCE AND HENCE, LOOKED DOWN UPON THOSE AROUND HER.
Everyone is inferior to me. That's why they don't understand.
IN THE END, SHE WAS ALL ALONE.
flying ball
!
STEP
BE CARE-FUL!
PRINCESS!!!

.....
ARE YOU INJURED, MY PRINCESS?
KNIGHT OF JUSTICE, AT YOUR ☆ SERVICE
Safe
UP
HMM?
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN YOU.
WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FOOD?
I LIKE EVERY-THING!
OH BY THE WAY, WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
I'M...

MY... SORRY ABOUT THAT.
TO YOU, IT MAY SEEM LIKE SOMETHING DISGUSTING AND INCOMPREHENSIBLE
BUT TO ME, IT'S A LOVELY GREETING.
AND TO ALL OF YOU INFERIOR BEINGS, WHOM ARE NOT ABLE TO COMPREHEND SUCH A REFINED ACT, DISAPPEAR FROM MY SIGHT IMMEDIATELY.

.....
!!?
HEHE! IS THIS THE CORRECT WAY?
I'M HIMOTO SORA!
NICE TO MEET YOU!
TELL ME YOUR NAME...
COME ON...!
...!
Whack
Whack
....
...
HAA AH

TSUKI ...
AOI TSUKI ...
AND THAT WAS HOW THEY MET... THREE YEARS BEFORE EXCLAN STARTED.
THEY WERE ONLY TEN THEN.
TSUKI STARTED OPENING UP TO SORA ABOUT HER THOUGHTS OF PARADISE.
SORA LISTENED ATTENTIVELY AND ACCEPTED WHAT SHE TOLD HER EARNESTLY.
THE ONE AND ONLY BEING WHO IS WILLING TO ACCEPT HER DEFINITION OF PARADISE...
SOON, SORA BECAME THE MOST IMPORTANT AND CLOSEST PERSON TO TSUKI.
Sora. She's the only one who understands———...
BUT SORA DOES HAVE FUN WITH OTHERS TOO.
IN SUCH A WAY, SHE IS ACCEPTING THEIR WAY OF PARADISE TOO.
TSUKI WAS UNABLE TO ACCEPT THAT AND HATED IT.

AND THAT'S JUST LIKE
PRINCESS IX IN THE STORY.
I want you to have eyes only for me, my knight. Only me!!!
WOW——!
I WANTED THIS SO MUCH! THE SAME RIBBON THAT THE KNIGHT HAD!
THANK YOU, TSUKI! I'LL DEFINITELY TREASURE IT!
.....SORA
HNNN?
ACTUALLY, I'M...

being abused by my step-father ...
TSUKI MADE IT OUT TO BE "EVIL",
AND MADE USE OF THE KNIGHT'S "SENSE OF JUSTICE".
AND THEN...

Thank You
Sora You feel a sense of satisfaction, right?
Being a knight and protecting the princess...
That's due to the fact that there's a great invisible power supporting You.
People are blessed with an appropriate role.
If so...
Fulfill that duty well.
SORA WAS THEN ENGULFED IN THE ROLE OF PARADISE STORY.
"Utopia will be here."

AND TSUKI, WHO WANTED TO BE CONTINUOUSLY PROTECTED BY SORA, DELIBERATELY MADE IT SEEM AS THOUGH THE ABUSE CONTINUED.

IN ORDER TO PROTECT TSUKI, SORA STAYED BY HER SIDE AT ALL TIMES.

HER STEP-FATHER WAS AN EXEMPLARY RESEARCHER IN IWAHIJIRI.

HAVING THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF IWAHIJIRI COMING ALL THE WAY TO VISIT ME...
I'M HONORED.
PLEASE DROP THE FORMALITIES.
I'M JUST SOMEONE IN HIS TWENTIES AND INEXPERIENCED.
MORE THAN THAT, THE SYSTEM THAT YOU HAVE DEVELOPED WAS A GREAT HELP TO IWAHIJIRI.
BUT RECENTLY, IT SEEMS THAT THE PROGRESS HAS SLOWED CONSIDERABLY ...
AS SUCH, I HAVE TO FIND OUT THE REASON WHY...
....
....
...I'M TERRIBLY SORRY.
I UNDERSTAND THAT I NEED TO GET OVER "IT," BUT...

SHE BROKE THROUGH THE SECURITY SYSTEM AND TOOK OVER THE ADMINISTRATIVE RIGHTS.
SO THE PRODIGY GIRL IS ALTERING THE WHOLE SYSTEM ...
EVEN SO...
SHE'S JUST LIKE PRINCESS IX IN THE STORY.
IN SPITE OF ALL THAT HAPPENED,
THE GIRL BESIDE HER IS STILL NAIVE AND KIND...
THE KNIGHT OF JUSTICE WHO YEARNS FOR "EVERYONE'S HAPPINESS"...
IT CONCERNS MY WIFE, WHO SEPARATED FROM ME,
AND MY YOUNG SON...
I CAN'T RELINQUISH THAT... I CAN'T ...
THE REASON FOR THE DELAY OF THE SYSTEM WAS DUE TO TSUKI.

ARE YOU... THE KNIGHT OF JUSTICE?
THIS TREE IS REALLY SMALL.
WHO'RE YOU?
YES, I AM! I'M THE KNIGHT OF JUSTICE WHO PROTECTS THE PRINCESS!
I PROTECT TSUKI... AND THE REST OF THE GIRLS!
ONLY GIRLS ...?
..... BUT

I WONDER WHAT'S WRONG... THE UNCLE WHO KEEPS ABUSING TSUKI..
IS DEFINITELY A BAD GUY, BUT...
EVERYTIME I BEAT HIM OFF,
THERE'S SOME SORT OF STRUGGLING FEELING IN MY HEART...
AND THAT UNCLE... AT TIMES, HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S REALLY SUFFERING...
I WONDER WHY... IF HE'S A BAD GUY,
I HAVE TO FEND HIM OFF... BUT...
.....YES
YOU'RE THE REAL KNIGHT OF JUSTICE.

DID YOU KNOW?
IN THE STORY, THE KNIGHT GAVE UP ON THE PRINCESS' PATH IN THE END.
HE STOPPED IN HIS TRACKS AND TURNED TO THE ROAD OUTSIDE THE PATH.
AND THEN, HE WENT ON A JOURNEY.
Ehhh?! That's!
But why?!
PAT
I'LL TELL YOU THE REASON WHY...
NEXT TIME... I'LL BRING YOU SOMETHING GOOD.
AND ON THAT DAY,

SMACK
THAT'S ENOUGH!!
WHY DO YOU
YOU'RE SUCH A WIMP...
THAT'S WHY YOU WEREN'T ABLE TO LIVE WITH YOUR WIFE
HUMPH
TSUKI...
YOU...!
Stop it!
The one who is at fault is...

Isn't the one who is at fault, you, uncle?!!!
...MAKING CONCLUSIONS SO ABRUPTLY...
JUST WHAT DO YOU...
EVEN KNOW ABOUT ME...?!

IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, HER STEPFATHER SUCCUMBED TO THE STRESS AND FELL ILL.
HE WAS THEN TRANSPORTED TO HOSPITAL.

HE HAD JUST BEEN WITH IWAHIJIRI FOR AN INSTANT.
AND HE HAS TO SAY GOODBYE ...

SHE'S A YOUNG MOTHER... ON VARIOUS POINTS
MOM...
I-I'M SORRY. UM, HARUKA ...
I TOLD YOU TO CALL ME HARUKA.
LEAVE THAT FOR LATER, TAMAO
BEING FOOLED A ROUND BY A MERE LITTLE GIRL...
HE'S JUST A WIMP WITH HIGH PRIDE.
MALE CHAUVINISM?
HE PROBABLY JUST COULDN'T STAND A WOMAN BEING MORE CAPABLE THAN HIMSELF.

HOW DOES THAT SOUND? I'M BETTER THAN THAT PRODIGY GIRL, YOU KNOW?
FOR NOW, THIS MAN IS USE-LESS, ISN'T HE?
OH YEAH... IF SO...
WHY NOT I TAKE OVER THE PROJECT AND CONTINUE WORKING ON IT?
BY NO MEANS ...
TAKING OVER... IS IT FOR HIS (FORMER HUSBAND) SAKE?
AND WHAT'S MORE, I DON'T REALLY HAVE TO BE AT THE SCENE TO WORK ON THE PROJECT.
IF BEING A WOMAN IS A PROBLEM, I'LL JUST DISGUISE MYSELF AS A GUY...
IWAHIJIRI SUPPORTS MALE CHAUVIN-ISM.
chuckle
I DON'T MIND KEEPING IT SECRE-TIVE.
clench
THE NEXT "GOD" OF IWAHIJIRI. ♪
RATHER, I HAVE MORE INTEREST IN YOU.

IT SEEMS THAT YOU'VE NOTICED THE ROAD OUTSIDE THE PATH.
YOU'RE JUST LIKE THE KNIGHT IN THE STORY. STOPPING IN YOUR TRACKS AND TROUBLING OVER IT.
!
AH..!
AHH— THE SUNSET IS REALLY BEAUTIFUL.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO CHANGE INTO IT HERE. JUST PUT IT ON WHEN YOU GET HOME.
Rustle
Rustle
Rustle
Rustle
Flutter
IF YOU PUT THIS ON, I'LL TELL YOU THE REASON WHY THE KNIGHT LEFT AND WENT ON A JOURNEY.
... HERE YOU GO. THE STUFF THAT I HAD PROMISED YOU.

WHAT'S THIS ATTIRE?
IT'S THE POSSIBILITY YOU'LL FIND... OUTSIDE THE PATH.
Puff
THE PROOF THAT THE KNIGHT IS NOT "ABSOLUTE"...
!
CLIP
...?
HEY... WHY?
WHY DID THE KNIGHT STOP IN HIS TRACKS?
WHY DIDN'T HE CONTINUE TO PROTECT THE PRINCESS?

WASN'T HE THE KNIGHT OF JUSTICE WHO PROTECTED GIRLS?
DEFEATING THE BAD GUYS (UNCLE),
SAVING THE GIRLS (TSUKI),
THAT'S SHOULD BE THE RIGHT THING TO DO,
BUT WHY DO I FEEL SO MUCH PAIN IN MY HEART...
SORA KUN...
TO HAVE TSUKI BEING HAPPY AND UNCLE FEELING VERY SAD.
OR HAVE THE BOTH OF THEM BEING HAPPY.
WHAT WILL YOU CHOOSE ...?
...! BOTH OF COURSE!!
HAVING THE BOTH OF THEM BEING HAPPY IS THE BEST IT CAN BE!!
IF SO, THAT WOULD BE THE ANSWER YOU WANTED.

楽園物語を読み解く
"TO FIND A METHOD IN WHICH EVERYONE CAN BE HAPPY"...!!!
UTOPIA IS HERE...!!!
IT'S BEAUTIFUL, ISN'T IT?
SORA KUN, YOU CAN ALSO FOLLOW THE ROLE BESTOWED ON YOU.
IF YOU MANAGE TO DO SO,

SLASH
SLASH
SLASH
... YOU DEVIL...!!!
HOW DARE YOU STRAY MY KNIGHT AWAY FROM MY PARADISE...!!!
SPLATTER
SPLATTER
DRIP
EL

TSUKI...? TSUKI?! STOP! WHAT'S GOING ON...?!!!
...!!!?
SORA...!
Grab
WHAT THE HELL IS WITH THIS OUTFIT...?!
YOU'RE JUST A KNIGHT, NOTHING MORE!
Pi
ARGHHH... THIS FILTHY AND ANNOYING FRUIT!
CAUSING THE INNOCENT AND PURE YOU TO STRAY FROM PARADISE!!
Break

PUSH
HEY... WHERE'S THE BROOCH?
WHERE IS THE PROOF OF KNIGHTHOOD THAT I GIVE TO YOU...?!
AS I THOUGHT... IF SO, ...
I SHALL GIVE YOU...
SOMETHING
SLASH
SLASH
DISAPPEAR FOR YOUR WHOLE LIFE!!
THAT WILL NEVER
...
"IX" [ix]
YOU'RE THE PROPERTY OF QUEEN IX...
MY PROPERTY!!!

ME... GIRLS...
LOOK AT GIRLS ONLY.
DON'T GO TO THEIR SIDE.
DON'T LOOK AT MEN.
PRINCESSES ARE GIRLS! NOT MEN!
YOU'RE THE KNIGHT WHO PROTECTS THE PRINCESS!
... DON'T LEAVE ME!!!
KNIGHT ...!!!

FALL
.....
TSUKI..
.....
...
I'M
SORRY
...
hug
I'M
SORRY...!
SORRY

I DON'T KNOW HOW TO "MAKE EVERY-ONE HAPPY" ...?!!
I WON'T GO ANYWHERE.
I'LL FOREVER BE IN YOUR PARADISE... ...!
I'M SORRY, I...
I LIKE YOU A LOT, TSUKI...!!!
DON'T CRY...

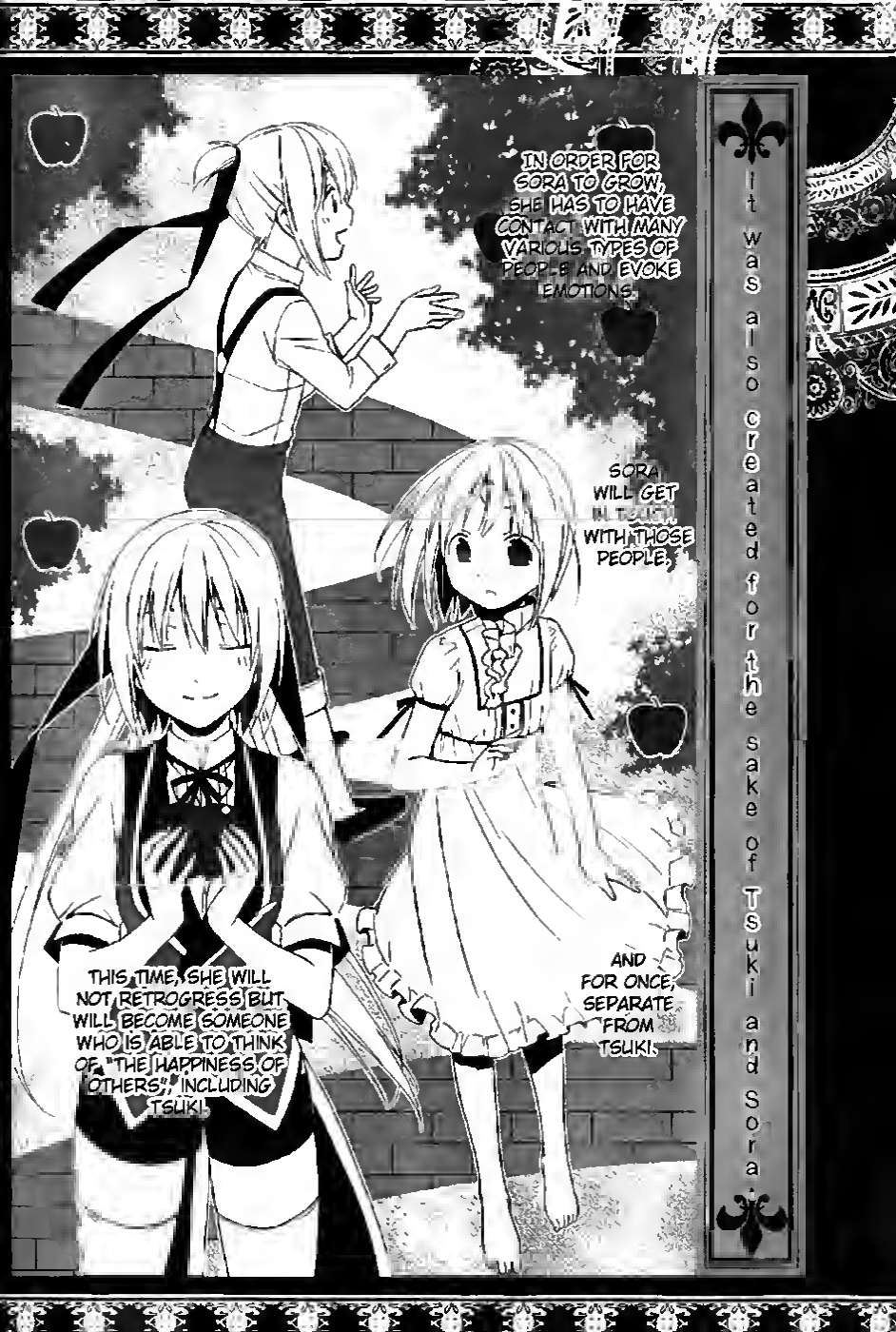
WHEN SORA WOKE UP THE NEXT MORNING,
SHE HAD NO RECOLLECTION OF THE PAST DAY'S EVENTS.
SHE ANSWERED ENERGETICALLY THAT SHE'S THE KNIGHT OF JUSTICE WHO PROTECTS "GIRLS."
A METHOD TO "ALLOW EVERYONE TO BE HAPPY"...
IWAHIJIRI... WOMEN, MEN, TSUKI, SORA...
IT'S REALLY DIFFICULT...
I'VE REQUESTED AND PLACED SUCH A HUGE RESPONSIBILITY ON A YOUNG GIRL...
EVEN SO...
...EVEN SO,
THE KNIGHT OF JUSTICE IS NECESSARY...!

PLEASE...
NOT ONLY THE PRINCESS... BUT ALSO THE HAPPINESS OF THE DEVIL KING...
AND ALSO, "EVERYONE'S HAPPINESS"...
SHUFFLE...
STEP
!
ATTACKING THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF IWAHIJIRI...
...WITHOUT THINKING OF THE CONSEQUENCES AND LETTING YOUR EMOTIONS TAKE CONTROL...
BUT...
YOU AND YOUR FRIEND WILL BE SOCIALLY OBLITERATED

WHAT'S WITH THAT ATTIRE ...?
YOU'RE QUEEN IX AND I'M THE DEVIL KING... AM I NOT RIGHT?
STEP
THERE IS A WAY TO BE FREE...
?
THIS GAME USES THE SYSTEM THAT YOUR STEP-FATHER WAS USING.
YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO DO IT.
CREATE THIS GAME.
Official School Document Utopia Academy
Top Secret
Quantum Mechanics Virtual Reality Game using
3D Projection Technology
– Excelan (Temporary name) –
Ver 2.60
XX
Board Chairman
University President
Overall in Charge
Management in Charge
Freshmen
Sophomore
Juniors
Seniors
Iwahajiri Information Research Corporation
IFC Solutions Limited
Jaest System Development

IF I WERE TO THREATEN YOU, YOU PROBABLY WOULDN'T GIVE YOUR BEST, RIGHT?
IF SO, IT'S TROUBLESOME...
THIS COMPLETED PROJECT WILL PROVIDE PROFITS AND ENORMOUS ADVANTAGES. I'D DEFINITELY WANT THAT.
THEREFORE...
I WILL MAKE YOU GIVE IT YOUR ALL.
IN THE COMPLETED GAME, LET'S HAVE A CONTEST.
IF YOU GUYS MANAGE TO WIN ME...
I'LL HAND THIS GAME
AS WELL AS THE AUTHORITY SYMBOL OF IWAHIJIRI [APPLE]...
THE ABSOLUTE POWER OF PARADISE "IWAHIJIRI" OVER TO YOU.

Karin wanted to make Sora the president.
SOMEONE LIKE SORA WOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE THE "EVIL" IWAHIJIRI INTO CONSIDERATION AND ABOLISH THE MALE CHAUVINISM SYSTEM.
THE GOD HIMSELF COULDN'T DO IT BUT HE STILL WANTED TO SAVE HIS FOLLOWERS.
HE DID NOT DESPAIR EVEN THOUGH HIS LIFE WAS REJECTED AND DENIED.
The six seals and conditions were created to access and test Sora.
THE FULFILLING CONDITIONS WERE "TO HAVE MUTUAL TRUST AND BELIEVE IN EACH OTHER". WHEN FACING A BATTLE, THE LEVEL OF CALMNESS AND HOW RELAXED THE GIRLS ARE WERE THE JUDGING CRITERIA.
IF SHE'S SOMEONE WHO IS ABLE TO GAIN THE TRUST OF THE SIX GIRLS UNDER SUCH HOPELESS CONDITIONS,
SHE WILL BE THE PERFECT CANDIDATE FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF IWAHIJIRI.
Also, the trial of Exclan aimed to reduce the suffering girls had to endure in the school.
DOWNGRADING A PERSON FROM A HUMAN TO A WEAPON PROMOTES MALE CHAUVINISM BUT...
IN ESSENCE, THE OPPRESSION SUFFERED HAS BEEN REDUCED FROM THE WHOLE COHORT OF MALES TO JUST THE OWNER.


IN ORDER FOR SORA TO GROW, SHE HAS TO HAVE CONTACT WITH MANY VARIOUS TYPES OF PEOPLE AND EVOKE EMOTIONS.
SORA WILL GET [illegible] WITH THOSE PEOPLE,
AND FOR ONCE, SEPARATE FROM TSUKI.
THIS TIME, SHE WILL NOT RETROGRESS BUT WILL BECOME SOMEONE WHO IS ABLE TO THINK OF "THE HAPPINESS OF OTHERS", INCLUDING TSUKI.
It was also created for the sake of Tsuki and Sora.

SO... WHAT WILL YOU DO?
ARE YOU GOING TO...
LOSE PARADISE JUST LIKE THAT AGAIN...?
SIT UP
... HUMPH

Very well
Staking both the paradise and knight...
I accept your challenge!! El!!!
THIS WOULD PROBABLY BE...
THE TRUE IDENTITY OF THE PERSON WHO DRAGGED SORA IN.

THERE WERE ALSO MANY OTHER SMALL DETAILS IN THE STORY.
"KARIN WANTED SORA TO GROW AND SAVE THE PEOPLE WHILE PUTTING THEIR FEELINGS INTO CONSIDERATION."
THIS, AS WELL AS...
"TSUKI WANTED BOTH HER OWN PARADISE AND SORA." IF YOU THINK OF IT ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BOARD...
YOU'LL SEE IT.
.....
.....
THE FOLLOWING DAY AFTER YOU SAVED SHOUJOU, THE CHALLENGE LETTER FOR A DUEL CAME.
YOU HAD DOUBTS ABOUT THE BATTLE AND HEADED TO KARIN FOR ADVICE.
KARIN THEN CONCLUDED THAT YOU HAD MATURED AND GROWN, AND HE TOLD YOU EVERYTHING.
Wow—! It seem to be pretty clever...
HMM... IN THE END, YOU'RE "ME"..., RIGHT?
THAT BECAUSE YOU ASKED KARIN YOURSELF.
WHY DO YOU KNOW SO MUCH.....?

RETURNING TO TSUKI'S PARADISE...?
—NO ...
THE SHOCK WAS TOO GREAT FOR YOU AND YOU PASSED OUT. HENCE, I HAD TO REARRANGE YOUR THOUGHTS AND EXPLAIN IT TO YOU IN THIS DREAM...
HA HA...
I'm sorry. There was just Sora too much to accept.
ARE YOU STILL UNABLE TO ACCEPT IT...
ARE YOU...
AS I COULD ONLY COMPREHEND HER WAY OF THINKING, I ENDED UP GO ING BACK TO HER EVERYTIME...
BUT NOW... IT'S DIFFERENT.
DURING THAT TIME,
I FOLLOWED TSUKI AND HER WISHES AS THERE WAS ONLY HER AROUND.

Sora had grown She was made to realize that there are not only one, but many other paths

THERE ARE MANY OTHER PEOPLE AROUND ME——...
It's all going to be alright now...!!!

It's alright now.....

Believe in me...!!
...SORA...
KARIN...
I.....

WHAT SHOULD I DO FROM NOW ON...?
PLEASE LEND ME YOUR WISDOM...!!
I'M THE KNIGHT WHO PROTECTS THE PRINCESSES...
AND ALL THOSE PEOPLE WHO ARE SUFFERING.
THE NAIVE AND COVETOUS KNIGHT OF JUSTICE...!
FINALLY, THE THOUGHTS OF THE "DEVIL KING" REACHED THE KNIGHT——!
NEXT CHAPTER, THE FINAL MOMENTS OF THE STORY——!!

Mako-Scans

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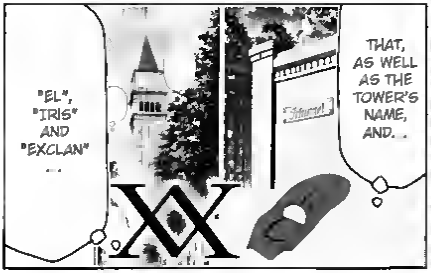
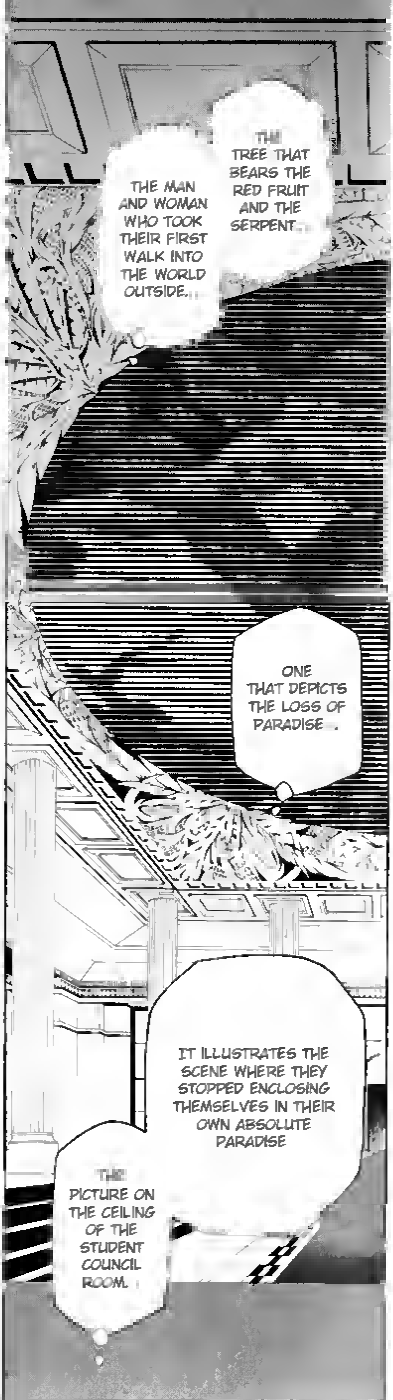

"EL", "IRIS" AND "EXCLAN"...
XX
THAT, AS WELL AS THE TOWER'S NAME, AND...

FURTHERMORE...
AS I THOUGHT.. IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE PARADISE STORY.

XX
IT IS ALSO USED..
IN THIS BOOK'S INTERPRETATION...


THE TREE THAT BEARS THE RED FRUIT AND THE SERPENT...
THE MAN AND WOMAN WHO TOOK THEIR FIRST WALK INTO THE WORLD OUTSIDE...
ONE THAT DEPICTS THE LOSS OF PARADISE.
IT ILLUSTRATES THE SCENE WHERE THEY STOPPED ENCLOSING THEMSELVES IN THEIR OWN ABSOLUTE PARADISE
THE PICTURE ON THE CEILING OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL ROOM.

IRIS .. "THE HAPPINESS OF THOSE WHO BELIEVE"
"I WILL CHERISH YOU."
THEY ARE THE "GODS", "EL" AND "X".
THE TOWER THAT BEARS "THE PARADISE ANGEL'S NAME"..
「HEXAGRAM」... "THE BOND BETWEEN MALES AND FEMALES"..
A knight...
I WONDER WHY.. WOULD A PARADISE STORY ENTHUSIAST LIKE ME BE INCLUDED IN THE ELITE COUNCIL OF THE SCHOOL?
What an enthusiastic way of interpreting it.
AH... IT WOULD BE GREAT IF I WAS THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT... IF SO, IT WOULD BE EASIER TO PERFORM DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS...
T-bring together all the wishes of the enthusiasts.

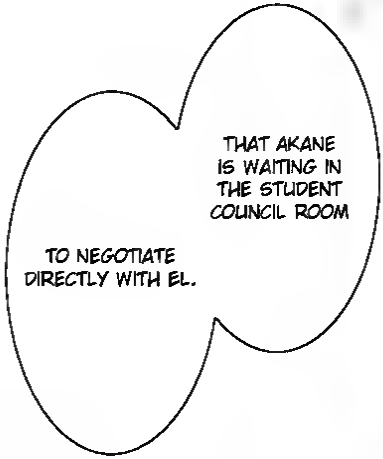
DON'T BEAR IT ALL ON YOURSELF...
OR BE TROUBLED ABOUT IT ON YOUR OWN. . AND DON'T GO ON A JOURNEY...
IT'LL BE FINE...
I'M...
EVERY-ONE... IS DOING THEIR BEST.
A GIRL WHO IS JUST LIKE THE KNIGHT IN THE STORY...
I THINK THAT WAS WHY I WAS FASCINATED BY HER RIGHT FROM THE START.
IT WOULDN'T MAKE SENSE NOT TO...
...YES
OTHERS...
RELY ON OTHER PATHS TOO...!
IF SO...

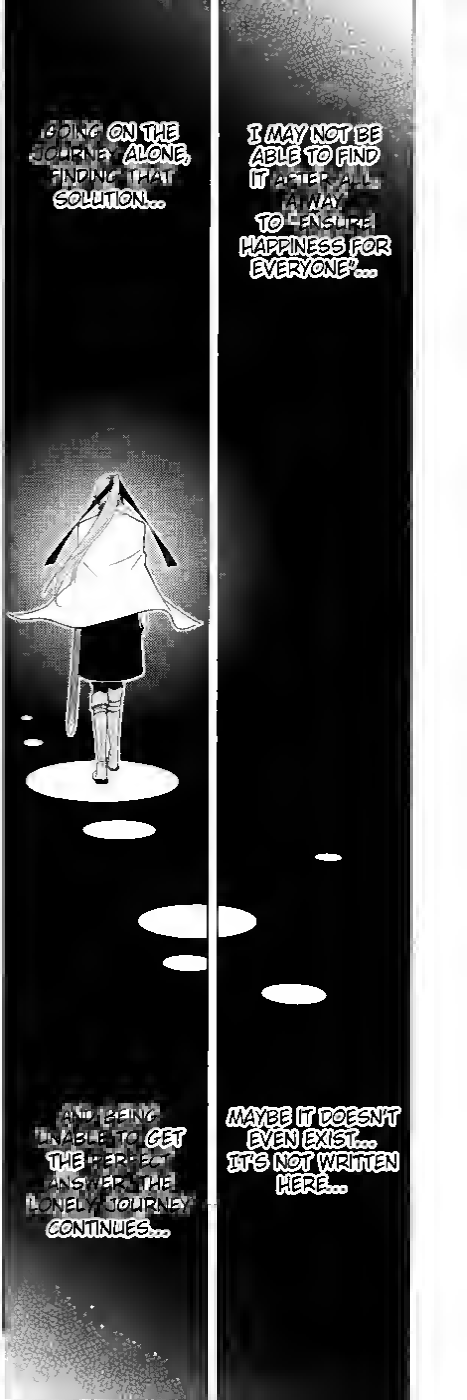
YOU WILL DEFINITELY BE ABLE TO FIND A WAY "TO MAKE EVERYONE HAPPY"...!

Shimmering
XX
Interpretations of paradise Story
AS I HAD THOUGHT...
IT'S NOT WRITTEN IN HERE...
楽園物語
WHY ISN'T IT WRITTEN IN HERE ?
I WANTED TO TAKE THE KNIGHT WHO WENT ON A JOURNEY AS A REFERENCE... BUT..
THE STORY'S CONTINUATION AFTER THE KNIGHT LEFT FOR HIS JOURNEY .
EVEN IF KARIN WERE TO PUT THE INTENTIONS OF IWAHIJIRI ASIDE, HE CAN'T TELL ME ANYTHING MORE THAN THIS.
BUT HE WANTS ME TO THINK ABOUT THE GENERAL STRATEGY'S SUPPORT..
THE TOUGH AND PHYSICAL STUFF WILL BE DEALT BY KARIN AND HIS COMRADES,

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING... THERE WERE LOTS OF VOICE MESSAGES.
OHH. . BY THE WAY,

I RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM MITARAI.
THE ONE WHO USED THE WHIP ON OSASHI
HE SAYS .

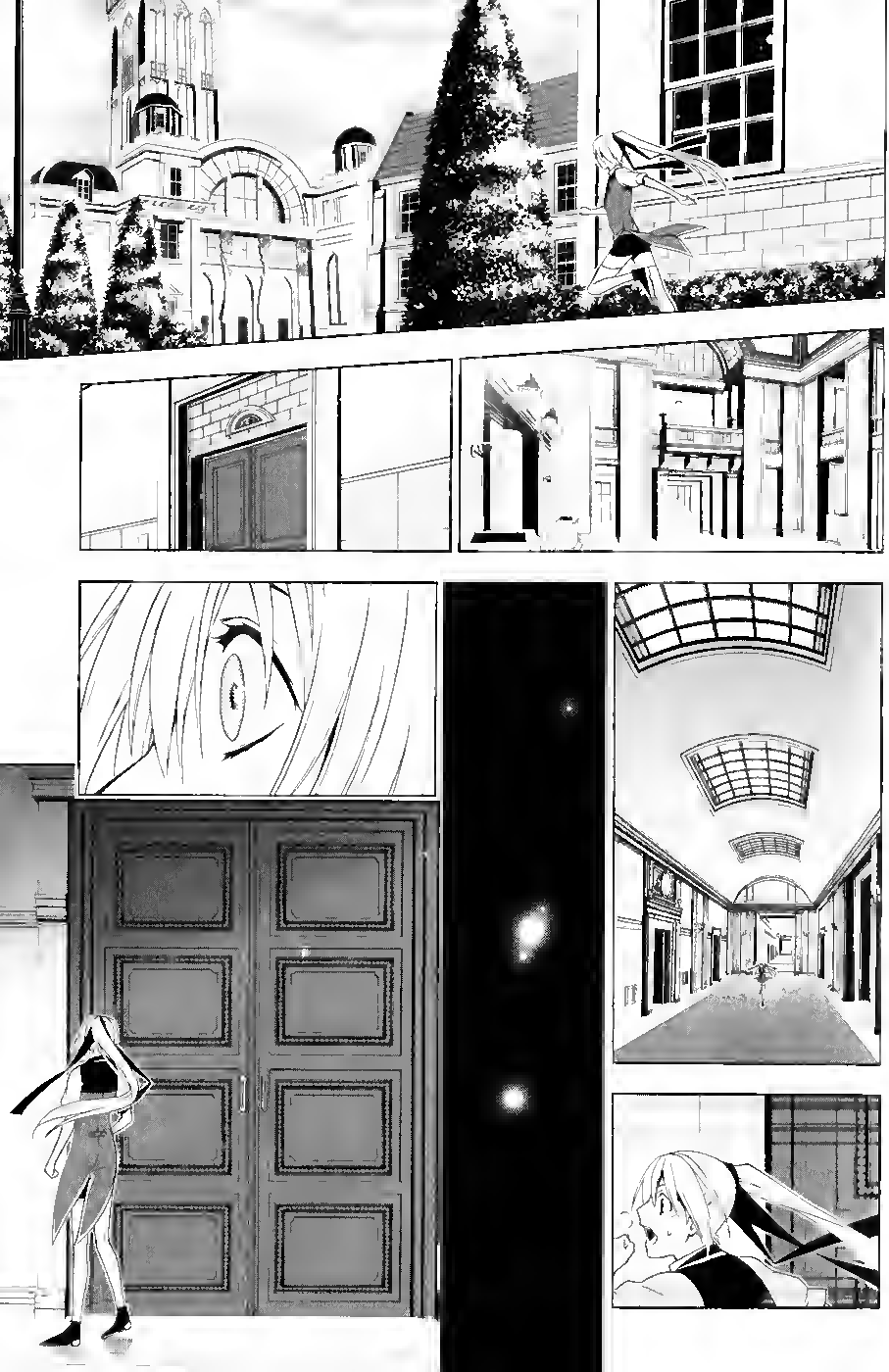

THAT AKANE IS WAITING IN THE STUDENT COUNCIL ROOM
TO NEGOTIATE DIRECTLY WITH EL.


I MAY NOT BE ABLE TO FIND IT AFTER ALL. A WAY TO "ENSURE HAPPINESS FOR EVERYONE"...
GOING ON THE JOURNEY ALONE, FINDING THAT SOLUTION...
MAYBE IT DOESN'T EVEN EXIST... IT'S NOT WRITTEN HERE...
AND BEING UNABLE TO GET THE "PERFECT" ANSWER, THE LONELY JOURNEY CONTINUES...

IT SEEMS THAT MITARAI CONVEYED THIS MESSAGE ON HIS OWN WILL...
HE'S DOING HIS BEST. AKANE TOO.
PRESS
WELL THEN, WHAT SHOULD I DO...?
!
AKANE—
I WANT TO MEET HIM!!
KARIN!
VOLT
MAY I... MAY I HEAD THERE IMMEDIATELY?!

Alright!
I'll be right back!!
...AHH
GO AHEAD...
...YOU'VE GROWN, SORA...
WHEN YOU FIRST CAME HERE, YOU WERE LOOKING ONLY AT THE GIRLS...
THE BOYS WERE TREATED AS VILLAINS.. BECAUSE YOU DID NOT LOOK OUTSIDE THE PATH.
I THOUGHT IT WOULDN'T WORK... AND I WAS UNEASY THE WHOLE TIME...

Please
Please, I beg you
Please look at at
us "devils" too
You
foolish
girl
Please, do
something
I beg you !!
I
BELIEVE
IN YOU.
SORA...
WELL——
THIS IS
THE FINAL
CHALLENGE



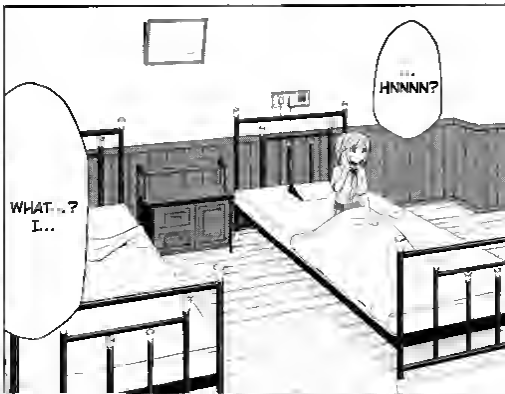
CREEE
...!
SORA...?
...
TSUKI

Interpretations of Paradise Story
Shimmer
THERE'S NO WAY WE'LL EVER BE ACCEPTED...
WE'RE ALREADY LABELED AS THE "DEVILS".
HIS BOYS...!!
SO IT'S THIS HUH, EL?...
YOU IDIOT... IT'S NOT POSSIBLE THAT IT WOULD GO SO SMOOTHLY IN THE REAL WORLD...
GOING WITH THE FLOW... ALL THE BAD THINGS HAPPENED...
TCH...
STEP

YOU'VE DONE PRETTY NASTY THINGS TO HER, HAVEN'T YOU?
AND YOU'RE NOW OVERWHELMED BY THIS HUGE SENSE OF GUILT !
..SO YOU'RE ABLE TO MOVE ALREADY?
OH YEAH... REIKO IS STILL IN THE NURSING ROOM
YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO ATONE FOR ALL THE HURT YOU'VE DONE TO THE GIRLS!!
I WON'T FORGIVE YOU.
STEP
STEP
STEP
I WANTED TO SAY THIS TO YOU WHEN YOU WOKE UP.

YES...

WHAT'S GOING ON...
THUD


...HNNNN?
WHAT...? I...

.....
DA...
WHAT SUMITA...?!
FLUTTER
TURN
QUIVER
QUIVER
.....
.....
.....
...!

KAWAUCHI TAEKO
WHICH REMINDS ME...
KARIN SAID THIS PREVIOUSLY
YOUR FATHER LEFT ME NOT FOR HIS OWN REASONS, BUT FOR MINE...
HE DIDN'T WANT ME TO GET INVOLVED IN IWAHIJIRI'S MALE CHAUVINISM...
...
Sniff

THAT MAN IS NOT ONE TO DO SUCH THINGS.
WELL, FOR ARGUMENT'S SAKE, EVEN IF IT WAS SO,
IT HASN'T CHANGED THE FACT THAT WE WERE SEPARATED.
AND THAT HE IS DEAD NOW.
IT WON'T CHANGE ANYTHING...
RIGHT?
Sniffle
clench
flinch

SORA SAMA'S SCENT CAME FROM HERE...
I think...
HAAÁ—
YUKI IS SUCH A HARSH SLAVE DRIVER
ASKING ME TO SNIFF OUT SORA SAMA JUST WITH A WHIFF OF HER SCENT...
I'M NOT A HOUND...
CHING
..AHHH
IT'S YOU...
NO

NOTHING MUCH.. I WAS SEARCHING FOR SORA SAMA... AND HER SCENT LED ME HERE ..
SO... WHAT DID YOU COME HERE FOR?
Rising
WHY... DID YOU ACT AS AN OKAMA?
WHAT? ISN'T THAT OBVIOUS?
LOWERING YOURSELF TO A GIRL'S STATUS ..
WHEN I THINK BACK UPON IT, IT'S LIKE A MALE CHAUVINISM SYSTEM AND YET YOU'RE BEHAVING LIKE A GIRL? ISN'T THAT CONTRADICTING?
HUH...?
COME TO THINK OF IT..
DOG...
Shocked
What?!
Well, I'm sorry about that, Mr. Okama!*

*Okama refers to a male homosexual.

I CAN BE A GUY OR A GIRL. I DON'T REALLY HAVE ANY PREFER-ENCE.
IT'S JUST THAT I HATE THOSE PEOPLE WHO ONLY THINK ABOUT THEM-SELVES.
THAT'S WHY, I LIKE EL A LOT.
I BELIEVE IN HIM AND WILL FOLLOW HIM.
BECAUSE I KNOW THE LIMITS OF MY OWN POWER.
TO BELIEVE IN EL AND LEND HIM SUPPORT,
THAT'S THE BEST I CAN DO FOR HIM.
?
BUT WHY DID YOU ACT AS AN OKAMA IN THE END?
I TOLD YOU, I WAS JUST TRYING TO DO THE BEST I COULD DO.
???
THAT— IS— WHY...
YOU GIRLS ARE...

AH...
J——UST JOKING! IT'S A LIE, A LIE...
IN THE HIDDEN CHAMBER ...
IN A SPACE SEPARATED FROM THE WORLD OUTSIDE...
TO BE WITH A GUY WHOM YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT HE'S THINKING
OR WITH AN OKAMA WHOM YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT HE'S THINKING
WHO DO THINK IS BETTER TO BE WITH?
EVEN IF I TOLD YOU...
YOU'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND IT...
Shimmer

!
MAY I...
SIT NEXT TO YOU...?
Summer
I THOUGHT—
THAT MY PARADISE WAS THE ONE AND ABSOLUTE ONE...
AND I DID HORRIBLE THINGS TO THE GIRLS TOO..

HOW SHOULD I ATONE FOR IT...
EVEN IF I SPEND MY WHOLE LIFE DOING THAT..
I MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO COMPENSATE FOR ALL OF IT...
IF YOU'RE REALLY SERIOUS ABOUT IT...
YOU'LL HAVE TO KEEP COMPENSATING FOR YOUR MISTAKES CONTINUOUSLY...
IN ORDER TO GRANT THOSE GIRLS WHOM YOU HAVE HURT PREVIOUSLY HAPPINESS,
YOU HAVE TO SUPPORT THEM WITH YOUR FULL POWER, MENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY...
IT'S GOING TO BE REALLY TOUGH, YOU KNOW? ARE YOU SURE...
YOU WILL BE ABLE TO DO IT FOREVER...?
.....

...
SORA
YOU...
WHY ARE YOU HERE...?
.....
I'LL DO IT!!

SORA..?
I SEE... THAT'S WHY YOU CAME HERE HASTILY.
TO MEET ME, RIGHT?
BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW TO PROGRESS ON FROM HERE...
I'VE... COLLECTED ALL 5 SEALS
THAT'S WHY I'VE COME TO MEET YOU. SO WE CAN DERIVE A SOLUTION TO HOW "EVERYONE CAN BE HAPPY"...!
TSUKI...

I SEE. IT'S ALWAYS ME GIVING YOU GUIDANCE ON WHICH WAY TO GO.
ALRIGHT. I'LL DISCUSS IT WITH YOU BRIEFLY BEFORE OTHERS FIND US.
IT'LL BE FINE. YOU JUST NEED TO BELIEVE IN ME.
JUST DO WHAT I SAY AND DEFEAT EL... THE DEMON KING...
!
GRAB
TSUKI...
NOT THE DEMON KING...!
EL IS... KARIN IS...

SORA!!? DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE...
IT'S ALRIGHT! I'M NOT REJECTING YOUR PARADISE.
BUT, I'M NOT REJECTING KARIN'S... IWAHIJIRI'S PARADISE EITHER.
NO MATTER WHOSE PARADISE IT IS... THAT'S WHY...
I'M SORRY...
I CAN NO LONGER ONLY LISTEN...
TO YOUR WORDS...!!!

SCREAM
STOP RIGHT THERE, SORA!
WELL, I'LL BE GOING ...!
...
...IF
WAIT ...
WAIT ...
WAIT ...
WAIT ...

HAVE EYES ONLY FOR ME!
IWAHUJI'S... YOU'RE GOING TO ACCEPT ANOTHER PARADISE?!
THAT INFERIOR AND WRONG PARADISE?!
THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO ARE RIGHTEOUS ARE ME AND YOU!
THE BETTER ONE WOULD BE...
WE'RE ALMOST THERE, JUST A LITTLE
IT IS POSSIBLE WITH THE USE OF IWAHUJI'S INFLUENCE AND POWER.
THAT'S WHY WE'RE GOING TO UNITE ALL THE PARADISES INTO ONE.
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY REASON TO STEP INTO A DIFFERENT KIND OF PARADISE!!
HEY SORA, FOREVER! JUST HAVE EYES ONLY FOR...

.....
NNNN
Flutter
Hug
NNNN
..
SORA..

EL... I'LL
LEAVE IX TO YOU...
FOR AWHILE...!
STEP

AHH...
DON'T WORRY. GO SAFELY AND RETURN...
KNIGHT...!
THANK YOU...
.....

SORA...
...
Sigh

Open
....um
Huh?
WHY...?
YOU'RE...

AKANE...
UM
I HAVE SOMETHING... TO ASK YOU
BUT... I DON'T KNOW...
WHERE TO START.....
I WONDER IF IT'S...
ALRIGHT...

Interpretations of Paradise Story
AKANE... THAT'S..
AHH, THIS... IT'S THE INTERPRETATION OF PARADISE STORY.
ENTHUSIASTIC LOVERS OF THIS STORY WROTE AN INTERPRETATION ABOUT IT...
THIS IS ONE OF THEM..
THIS INTERPRETATION WAS SO CONTROVERSIAL THAT IT WAS SOLD OUT IN AN INSTANT.
IBU YUUHI
THIS WAS WRITTEN BY MY LATE FATHER.
HE WAS A UNIVERSITY LITERATURE PROFESSOR.
AND UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF MY FATHER, I ALSO CAME TO LOVE THIS STORY...
RESEARCHING ON IT— DID YOU KNOW? THIS SCHOOL'S TOWER...
I SEE...!
Chuckle
AKANE...
COULD IT BE THAT YOU LOOK EXTREMELY LIKE YOUR FATHER?
Eh! How did you know that?!
Internally and externally, it's often said that I'm his clone!

HEY... AKANE
...
THE CONTINUATION OF WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THE KNIGHT WENT ON HIS JOURNEY...
IT'S NOT WRITTEN ANYWHERE.
DO YOU THINK THAT...
THE KNIGHT FOUND A SOLUTION TO HOW "EVERYONE CAN OBTAIN HAPPINESS" ...?

Yes!!!
THAT THERE ARE SO MANY OTHER ROADS TO CHOOSE FROM...
THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF PARADISE... VIEWPOINTS, THAT THERE ARE MANY OPPORTUNITIES!
...DIDN'T THE KNIGHT DISCOVER OTHER PATHS TOO?
THAT'S WHY... THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS!
AND I THINK THAT BECAUSE THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS,
THERE IS NO NEED TO WRITE THEM DOWN!!

Then
Then how about you?!
What do you think happened to the knight in the end?
HUH? ME?
UM... THIS IS JUST WHAT I DESIRE,
If it turned out like this, it would be great
Um SO PLEASE DON'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT IT, ALRIGHT?
Whisper
「————。」

——IF IT'S OKAY WITH YOU, LET ME
ACCOMPANY YOU ON THE UPCOMING JOURNEY OF REDEEMING YOURSELF.
Ehhhh
Where
Wait
!?

NO ONE MAY EVER WANT TO FORGIVE YOU
HUH...?
BUT, I WILL.
UM, THAT'S
I... CAN'T DRAG YOU...
INTO THIS
I'LL FORGIVE YOU.. AND ACKNOWLEDGE ...
THAT THE EXISTENCE YOU'VE ALWAYS YEARNED FOR IS ACTUALLY TO HAVE SOMEONE TO BE BY YOUR SIDE.
I WANT YOU TO REMEMBER THAT...!

.....

inhale
.....
WELL THEN, SEE YA—DOG GIRL——
CHING

I.. don't know why I'm saying this
But, I'm really glad that on my way to the secret chamber,
UM
The person who rode the elevator with me isn't a stranger... But you...!!
SUCCESS
UM!!
AND!
TUG
OUCH
OUCH
OUCH
OUCH
OUCH
CLOSING
!
YES YES, SEE YOU THEN—
Chuckle

THAT'S WHY... HOW SHOULD I SAY IT...
THAT WAS ALL THANKS TO YOU!
AND I'VE COME TO BELIEVE IN SORA SAMA...
For... for the one we love....!!
L- Let's
Do our best

chuckle

KEWENTSEO
YOU'RE REALLY LIKE YOUR FATHER.
I THOUGHT THAT YOU WERE A WIMP LIKE YOUR FATHER, WHO ONLY THINKS ABOUT HIMSELF...
THAT'S WHY DURING THE FIGHT WHEN YOU PROTECTED ME, I WAS SHOCKED.
THAT'S WHY...

BECAUSE THE BOTH OF YOU ARE ALIKE... THAT GUY MIGHT HAVE HAD THAT SIMILAR TRAIT IN HIM TOO.
IT'S JUST LIKE WHAT KARIN HAD SAID...
HE LEFT ME FOR MY OWN SON...
WELL, NOW THAT I'VE CHANGED MY THINKING, I CAN'T DO——....
Sob
Sob
Sob
Sniff

ARE YOU CRYING OVER YOUR FATHER'S MATTER...
WHAT A STRANGE CHILD YOU ARE...
... GEEZ
WHY...
TAMAO
UM...
...

DIDN'T I USE YOU PREVI-OUSLY?
BUT YOU... DURING MY ENCOUNTER WITH TOUGYUU... AS WELL AS THE OTHERS...
YOU HELPED ME... DIDN'T YOU?
THAT'S WHY... UMM... I THINK I SHOULD SAY THIS.
...
I'M SORRY... FOR USING YOU...
AND THANK YOU...
FOR ALL THE THINGS YOU DID...
... .

...?
TUTT
Pat...

.....
THANK YOU
knock
clench
IT DOESN'T HURT
IT'S FOR YOU.

... HUH?
I'M GIVING IT TO YOU.
WHY
I SAID IT'S FOR YOU.
FOR YOU
NOT THAT, BUT ISN'T THIS WHAT SENPAI MADE FOR YOU?
IT NEVER FAILS TO MAKE YOU SMILE... WHY ARE YOU GIVING ME SUCH AN IMPORTANT THING...?
I KNOW IT PRETTY WELL...
HOW CLOSE YOU WERE WITH MY SISTER...
HUMPH!
ANYWAY, SOMEDAY YOU'RE GOING TO SNATCH MY SISTER OVER.
AND I'M GOING TO KEEP TRACK OF EACH AND EVERY PROGRESS BETWEEN YOU GUYS, YOU HEAR ME?!
!!?
No! That's absolutely ...!!
YOU GUYS WENT BEYOND KISSING AND DID OTHER STUFF AS WELL, RIGHT?!
chuchu
HAH! WHATEVER

HAH—! HOW LASCIVIOUS!!
THE BOTH OF YOU CAN TRY YOUR BEST EXPLAINING THAT TO ME!
CLIP

... YOU IDIOT.
Shimmer
WHAT ARE YOU...
UM...
TCH
.....
...
I... HAVE SOMETHING I NEED TO TELL YOU...
KOHARU ...?
.....
...

YOU'RE JUST GOING TO SAY I'M "A VILLAIN", "A BAD PERSON", "THE WORST", "DEVIL"...
LIKE I'LL LISTEN TO THOSE WORDS?!
.....
I'm sorry
...
I... I'M STILL THINKING BAD ABOUT YOU...

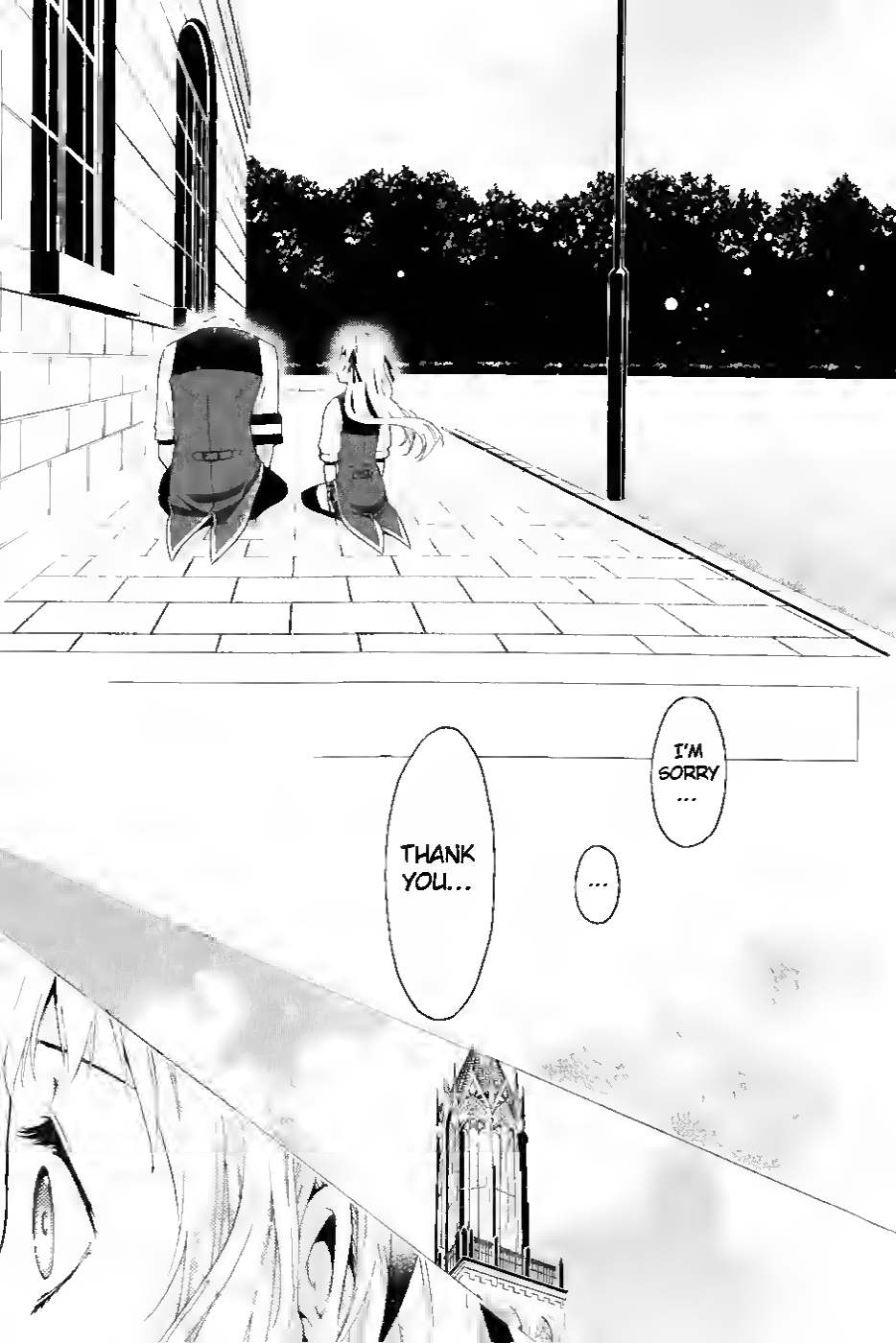
YOU'RE ALWAYS INTIMIDATING ME...
YOU THREW ME AROUND LIKE A TOOL COUNTLESS OF TIMES...
AND WHEN I WAS ATTACKED...
I WAS TRULY AFRAID...
YOU'RE CRUEL... THE WORST...
...BUT
THAT MAY NOT BE YOUR TRUE INTENTIONS.
BECAUSE YOU'RE IN THIS SCHOOL, YOU CAN'T REALLY DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT...
THAT'S WHY...
I'M SORRY.
HUH...
IS THAT ALL THAT YOU'RE SAYING...?

Throw
WINCE
...
I DID IT...
BECAUSE I WANTED TO DO IT...!!
IT'S NOT JUST A DISGUSTING DREAM, YOU IDIOT
Tap
Tap

It's alright if you laugh at me but...
Please listen to me!
CHASE
You've been challenging Sora sama to countless battles, right?
And every time you said, "Give Koharu back!"
What you wanted to get back was just a weapon,
And not me. I know that... But
Time and time again,
Even when you end up utterly defeated,
You still said "Give Koharu back"...
That's why

That's why,
Even if it's just a little...
I felt happy...!
.....
.....
.....
ARGH—
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
ARGH—
ENOUGH!!
Shocked
Tap

YOU FORGOT SOME-THING.
"KAJIWARA SENPAI"...
Side
Side


I'M SORRY...
...
THANK YOU...

It was the continu-ation of the knight's story after he went on a journey
A blissful and happy ending
AHH— SO THE FINALE WAS LIKE THIS?
I DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THAT...
THIS IS...!!
And this is some-thing almost no one knew about
The final chapter of the story
A story ...?
A simple one where the princess was kidnapped by the demon king and the knight rushing to save her
PARADISE STORY'S ...
WHAT'S THAT ...?
THIS VOICE ...
SORA SAMA ...?
That is a story everyone knows of

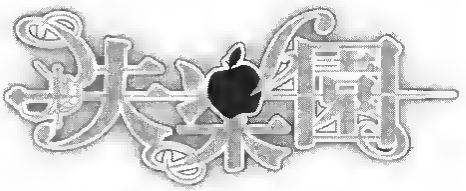
... thank you thank you.
You're really...

Really... really...
precious to me...

I'll show you paradise.

XX

Utopia
is here.



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SQUARE ENIX

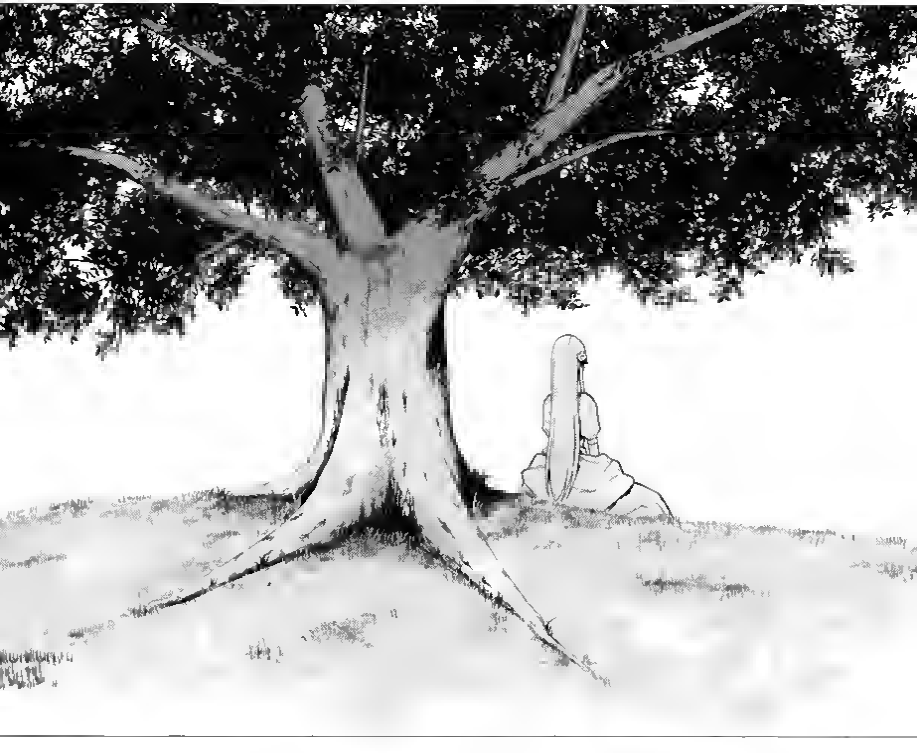
Tsuki Aoi

尚村 透

Newly Written
~Iris Eternal~

Ça fait longtemps que tés partie dans ma mémoire
La Princess vit en moi
Reviens, Mon Chevalier
Retiens, Mon Chevalier...

(It's been a long time since you left me.
Even so, the queen in me still continues to live on.
Come to me once more, my knight.
Please, just once more, my knight...)



Flutter
EL...

I ABSOLUTELY HATE PEOPLE LIKE YOU...!!!
YOU DEVIL...! DEMON KING!! WHAT HAVE YOU COME HERE FOR?!
THAT I'M IN SUCH A WRETCHED STATE BECAUSE I'VE LOST MY KNIGHT AND MORE THAN HALF OF MY KINGDOM TO YOU...!!
YOU'VE COME TO LAUGH AT ME, DIDN'T YOU?!
Cat
Ch
through
smack
xoss
fling

ADAM...?!
!!
Huh.
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME! IX!
WHA WHAT'S THIS! YOU ABANDONED ME PREVIOUSLY AND YET YOU STILL HAVE THE CHEEK TO RETURN
YOU'RE NO LONGER MY KNIGHT!
YES, I'M NOT YOUR KNIGHT ANYMORE.
GRIT...

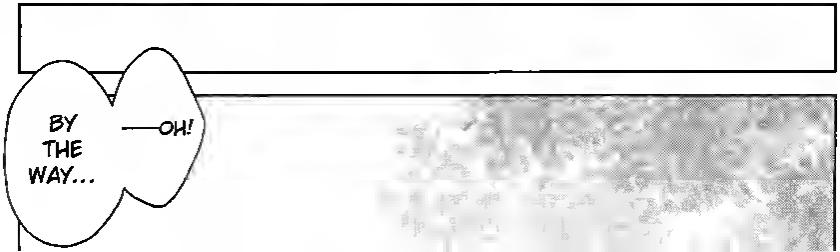
HUH .....?
CLAP CLAP
HENCE, I'M NOW A KING!
YOU SEE, HE TOOK AWAY HALF OF YOUR LAND, RIGHT? AND HE GAVE THOSE LANDS TO ME INSTEAD. WITH THAT, I'VE ESTABLISHED INDEPENDENCE.
I'M NO LONGER A "KNIGHT" ...
BUT A "KING"!!
WHAT'S... THAT...
.....
AHH. OF COURSE, WHEN HE GAVE ME THE LAND, THERE WERE CONDITIONS ATTACHED.
RIGHT AFTER THAT, I WENT ON A JOURNEY TOWARDS THE NORTH, FOUND A MOUNTAIN FILLED WITH ORES...
AND ESTABLISHED A TRADE WITH THEM...
YOU REALLY HATE ME THAT MUCH...?!

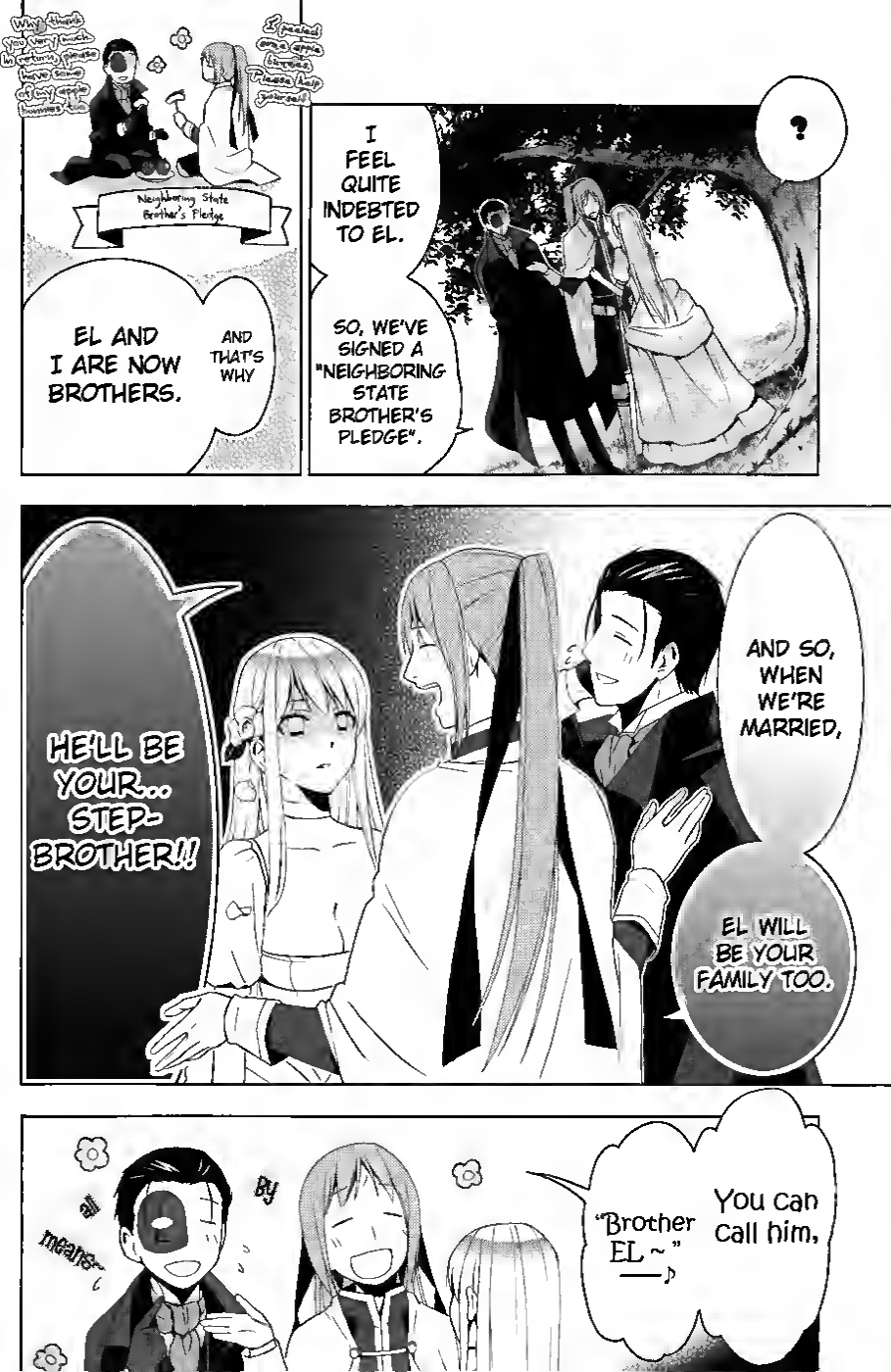
AH! NO, THAT'S NOT IT....
SO MUCH SO THAT YOU WANTED TO TAKE AWAY HALF OF MY KINGDOM...?!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING!
WHAT?!
I WANTED TO RETURN THEM TO YOU
OR RATHER, TO RESTORE THE NATURAL CONDITIONS
IN ANY CASE, YOU FIND ME UNPLEASANT, RIGHT?!
THAT I'M EXTREMELY UNLIKABLE AND HATED, RIGHT?!
and that you'll want to exact revenge on me, right...?!?

I just wanted to get married with you!!!
IN ORDER FOR A PRINCESS FROM YOUR COUNTRY TO GET MARRIED, THE GROOM HAS TO BE THE KING OF ANOTHER COUNTRY.
FURTHER-MORE, A KNIGHT CAN ONLY BE WITH THE PRINCESS WHEN THERE IS AN EMERGENCY.
THAT'S WHY YOU MADE ENEMIES, LABELED THEM AS EVIL AND WAGED WAR ON EL'S KINGDOM, RIGHT?
ALL OF THAT JUST BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO BE WITH ME... BUT
THAT WON'T DO!
I FEEL SORRY FOR EL AND THE PEOPLE IN HIS KINGDOM.
THAT'S WHY I'VE DECIDED TO BE A KING!
AT LAST, I'VE FOUND A WAY TO MAKE EVERYONE HAPPY...
THAT'S WHY.... I CAN FINALLY SAY!
TO BE ABLE TO WALK WITH YOU ON YOUR PATH... AND THAT CAN'T BE DONE IF I'M JUST A KNIGHT...
TO REALIZE THAT THERE ARE OTHER PATHS TOO, AND THAT I'M ABLE TO BORROW STRENGTH FROM THOSE PEOPLE, WHICH LED ME TO YOURS.

I LOVE YOU, PRINCESS IX!
PLEASE
STAY WITH ME FOREVER...!!

.....
YES!!


BY THE WAY...
——OH!


Neighboring State Brother's Pledge
EL AND I ARE NOW BROTHERS.
AND THAT'S WHY
I FEEL QUITE INDEBTED TO EL.
SO, WE'VE SIGNED A "NEIGHBORING STATE BROTHER'S PLEDGE".
?
HE'LL BE YOUR... STEP-BROTHER!!
AND SO, WHEN WE'RE MARRIED,
EL WILL BE YOUR FAMILY TOO.
By all means~
You can call him,
"Brother EL~"
——♪

absolutely never——!!!

Ha Ha Ha
IX IS SUCH A SHY GIRL♪

Gawk

Gawk

Gawk

Gawk

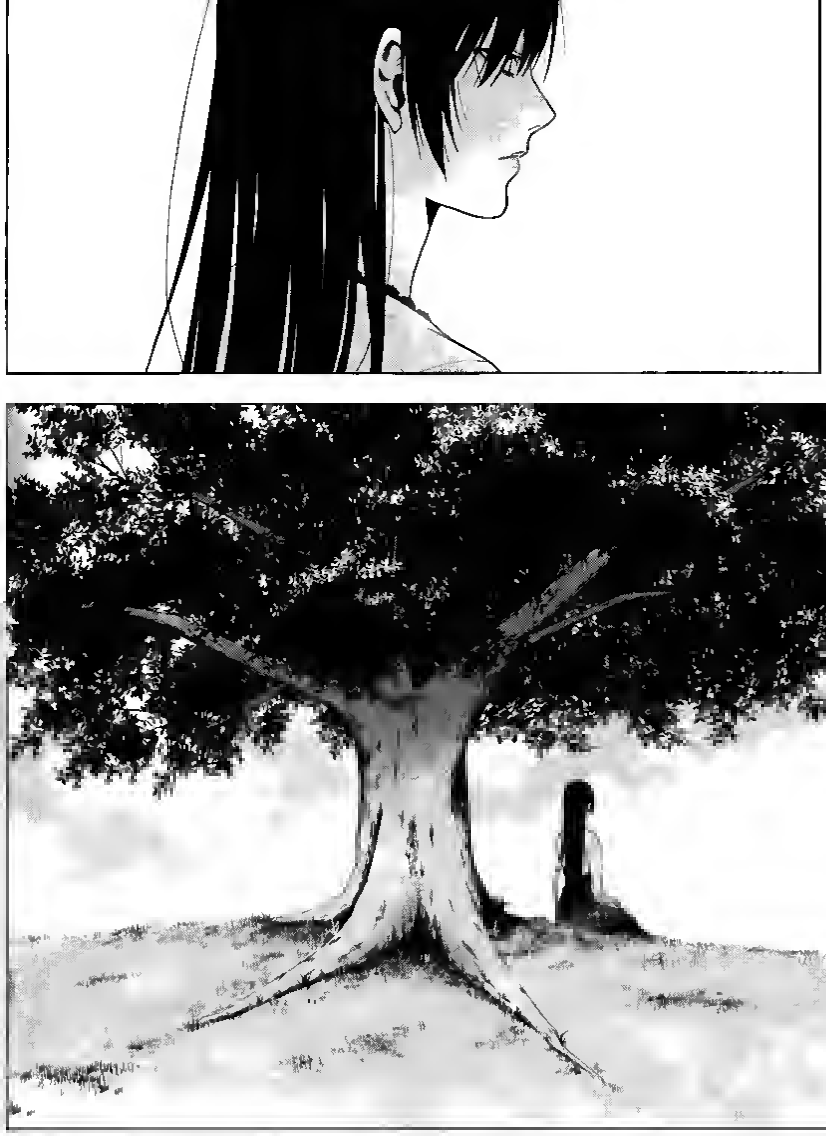
Gawk

Gawk

OU-
OUCH!

SHE REALLY WANTED TO KILL US!...
IT HURTS!!

HAHA HAHA


HEY,
AKANE

BASED ON YOUR IMAGINATION...
HOW MUCH TIME PASSED, BEFORE THE KNIGHT AND THE PRINCESS WERE REUNITED AGAIN?
EH? HMMM...
...I THINK... IT'S ABOUT 10 YEARS...?
OH REALLY ...?
IT TOOK A LONGER TIME THAN WHAT I HAD IMAGINED THOUGH...
HAHA HA...
THAT'S FOR SURE. REALITY ISN'T AS WONDERFUL AS A STORY...
YEAH, THAT'S TRUE...
BUT...

LAST YEAR...
THE MOST VETERAN EXECUTIVE OF IWAHIJIRI PASSED AWAY, RIGHT?
SORA WON THE BATTLE AGAINST THE STUDENT COUNCIL AND OBTAINED APPLE...
USING THE ELIMINATION OF MALE CHAUVINISM AS A CHESS PIECE AGAINST IWAHIJIRI, SHE SPLIT THEM UP. BUT EVEN SO...
THEY VOWED TO "GAIN BACK THE OTHER HALF OF IWAHIJIRI, WHICH WAS SNATCHED BY THAT LITTLE GIRL
THAT'S HOW FAITHFUL THOSE PEOPLE ARE TO IWAHIJIRI...
AHH— THAT BATTLE BRINGS BACK MEMORIES
IT DID NOT APPEAR TO BE AN ACT.
THOSE PEOPLE... SPOKE TO ME
BEFORE THEY DIED.
.....
KARIN...

AND TO NOT REJECT US, EVEN UNTIL THE FINAL MOMENT...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
FOR BELIEVING IN US, WHO HAVE FOLLOWED IWAHIJIRI'S PATH ALL ALONG.
WITH SUCH PRIDE,
LETTING US LIVE ON TILL THE LAST OF OUR LIVES...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH...
GOD...!

I SHOULD
BE THE ONE SAYING THIS...

FOR LOVING IWAHIJIRI...
FOR BELIEVING IN IWAHIJIRI TILL THE LAST MOMENT OF YOUR LIVES.
THANK YOU...

THANK YOU
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

THANK YOU...!!

!

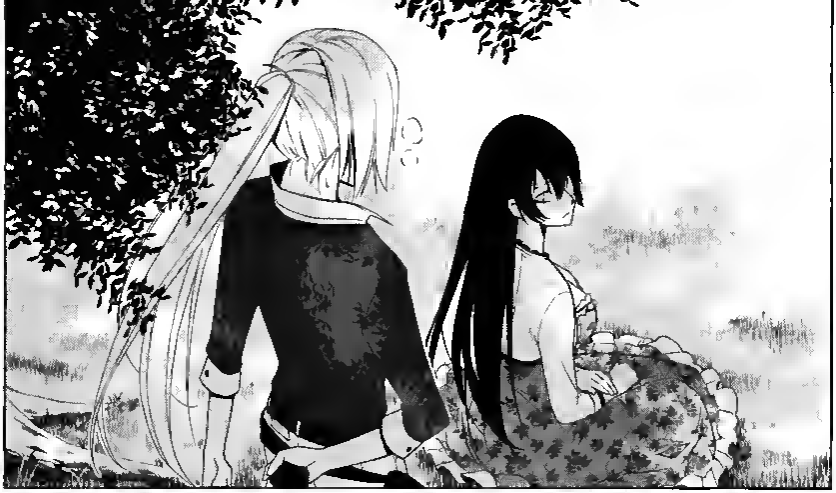
I'M SORRY FOR DRAGGING YOU INTO IWAHIJIRI'S PROBLEMS.
TO BE ABLE TO MAKE IT THUS FAR..
WAS ALL THANKS TO YOU AND SORA,
AND ALSO HER FRIENDS, AND THE PEOPLE IN THE STUDENT COUNCIL... ALL THANKS TO EVERYONE...

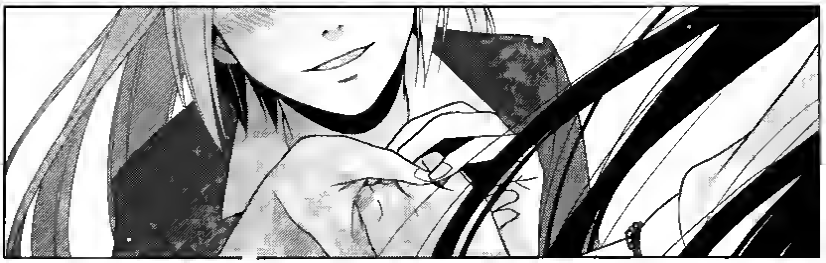
...Oi!

She's fast!
FATHER ...?
THE RESTRUCTURING OF IWAHIJIRI HAS MORE OR LESS STABILIZED ...
AND SO, WE HAVE TO HEAD OVER TO YOUR FATHER, IBU YUUHI'S GRAVE, TO THANK HIM PROPERLY.
AFTER ALL, WE OWE HIM THE MOST...
AHH...
SORA WANTED TO PAY HER RESPECTS TOO, SO LET'S ALL GO TOGETHER..
HER TOO...

I WONDER IF SHE'LL COME WITH US.
DON'T WORRY, I'M SURE SHE'LL COME.
BUT, WE'RE SOON...
HAHA... THAT'S TRUE
WELL... LET'S...

《—— I'll treasure you.
Forever, I'll be by your side and continue to protect you. ——》





《——I'll give you paradise——》

THANK YOU FOR WAITING!
I'M SORRY I WAS LATE IN RECEIVING YOU.
EVER SINCE I MET YOU
I LOVE YOU
EVEN NOW... AND HENCEFORTH ...
... SO

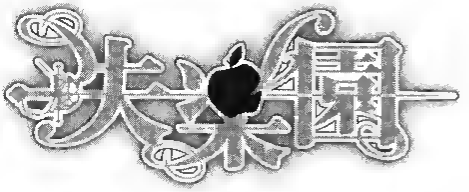
WAIT!
WAIT, SORA!
Y-YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND.
M-M
MAR-RIAGE ...
IS NOT
AH!
L-LIKE CHILD'S PLAY...
MORE OVER ...
Y-YOUR KIND OF LOVE IS MORE LIKE...
WA-
Please marry me!
Tsuki ...!!

IT'S ALRIGHT!
THANKS TO EVERYONE, I'VE BECOME AN "ADULT" ALREADY.
I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING.
..... PROPERLY.
WITH YOU,
I'M THINKING OF DOING SOMETHING MORE THAN
JUST AN "EXPRESSION OF LOVE"...!

Sortons l'extérieur, Si tu veux, mon chevalier
Je t'aime, mon amour
Il y a mon Utopie près de vous

(My knight, if you wish so, let's head outside.
I love you, my dearest person.
My paradise is right next to you.)

Shitsurakuen End

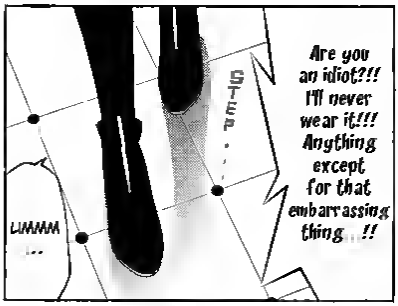


addition

Omake 4 Koma

The matured uniform

I'm already nearing my 40s!!!
What the hell is this "school attire (uniforms)" ????
I think she wants to relive the old times—
And everyone's meeting up after a long time!
Invitation card



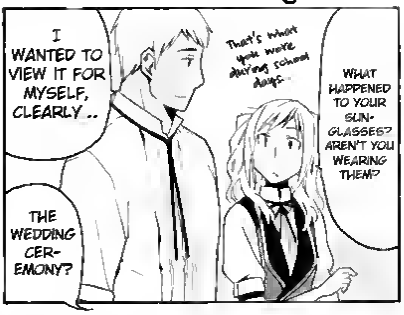
What happened, Kajiwara? Your voice sounds amazingly serious.
...IF IT'S THE WISH OF THE NEWLYWEDS, THEN WE CAN'T HELP IT. LET'S ALL WEAR OUR UNIFORMS!!!

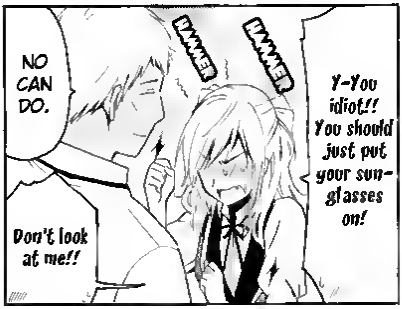
Dear friends,
We extend our heartiest invitation to all of you. We will be having our wedding ceremony soon. Therefore, we have prepared a banquet for our dearest friends who have accompanied us throughout in the past. Please grace our ceremony with your presence.

Please note that you are to put on your school attire (uniforms) when you come for the event. Thank you.

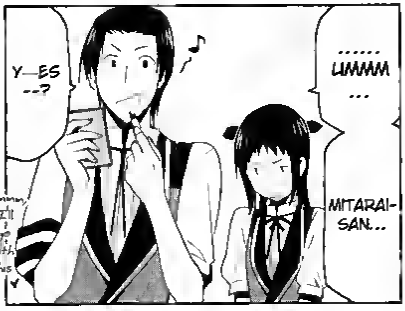
On a lucky day, June, 20●●
Himoto Sora Aoi Tsuki

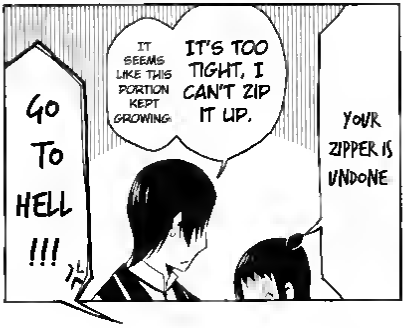
Tsundere is doing well


I WANTED TO VIEW IT FOR MYSELF, CLEARLY..
THE WEDDING CER-EMONY?
That's what you were during school days.
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR SUN-GLASSES? AREN'T YOU WEARING THEM?



It's not cute





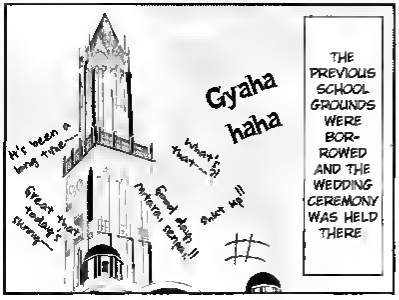
Dear brother

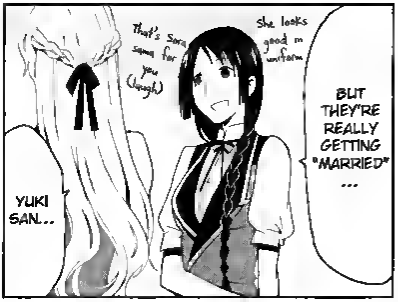
↑Her sister was also invited

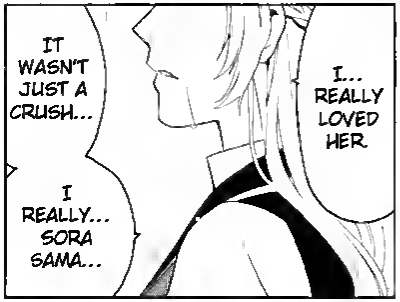
Troubled son is going strong

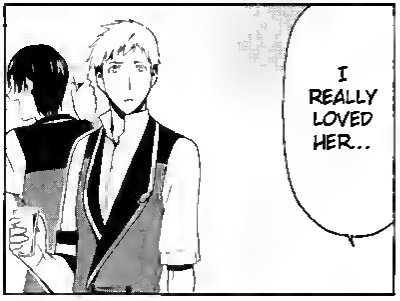
AHHH—... WELL, THAT'S PRETTY TRUE.
It's dangerous!! Even at that time when you wore it, it was barely acceptable. If you put it on now, it's really gonna be out of place!!

Confession

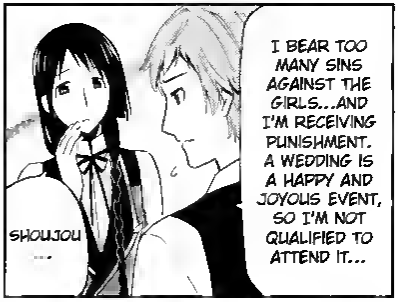

Gyaha haha
It's been a long time...
What's so funny...?
Great that Yuki's starting
Cursed death metal, senpai!!
Shut up!!
THE PREVIOUS SCHOOL GROUNDS WERE BORROWED AND THE WEDDING CEREMONY WAS HELD THERE

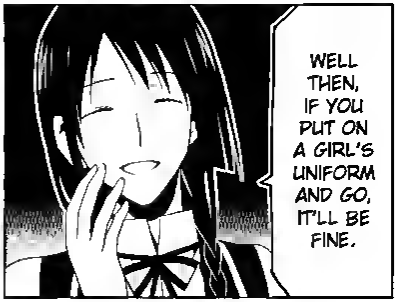






His dark history

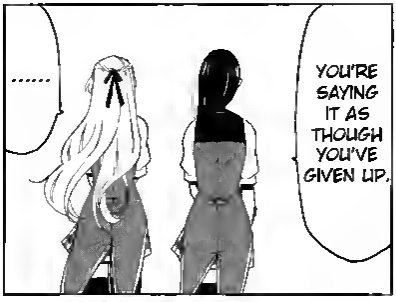

I BEAR TOO MANY SINS AGAINST THE GIRLS...AND I'M RECEIVING PUNISHMENT. A WEDDING IS A HAPPY AND JOYOUS EVENT, SO I'M NOT QUALIFIED TO ATTEND IT...
SHOUJOU ...

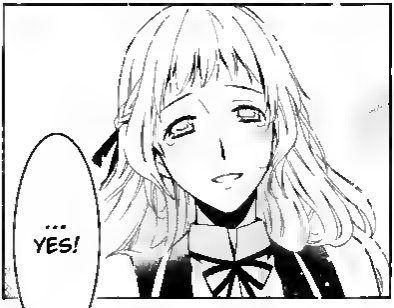


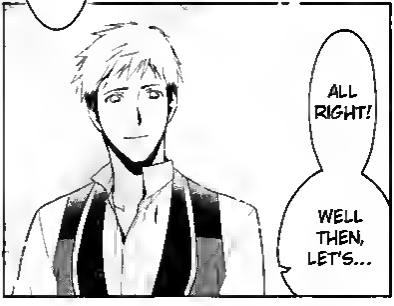
NOOO
Heh
Heh
Heh
Heh
HUH?
SHUT UP! SHOW ME HOW YOU LOOK LIKE MASQUERADING AS A FEMALE
AS LONG AS IT BECOMES A PUNISHMENT, IT'S FINE RIGHT? THEN ATTEND THE CEREMONY UNDER THE PRETEXT OF A PUNISHMENT GAME WITH FEMALE WEAR.

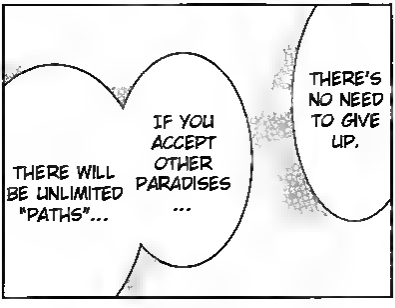
Flip to Chapter 9, 12 for reference

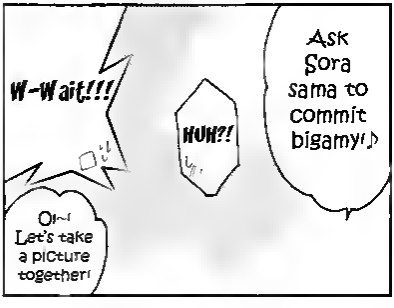
Unlimited Paradise

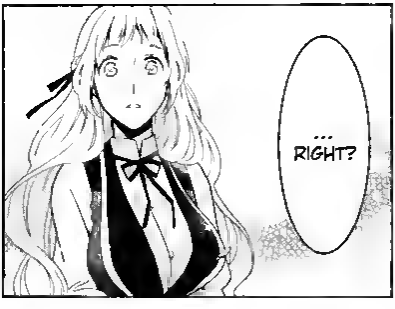












Congratulations

お疲れ様でした！

*Thank you very much!

Congratulations! On the ending and serialization of this comic! Thank you for following this production from start to finish! I've learnt a lot from this project! Nao sensei! Please continue to do your best!! I love Shitsurakuen! I love Okamas too!!

This is from my assistant H sama!! Thank you very much!!!(´∀`*) Love❤
To T sama and my dearest sister too. Thank you! (^v^) (laugh)

SQUARE ENIX.

With deepest heartfelt thanks...
担当 湯本様，妹様，辻様，廣津様
父上様，母上様，妖精様，キャラクターたち
and you!!
2011. 5 23 Naomura Tooru
If it's possible, I'll be happy to see you again!! (ω)/"

Mako-Scans

Editor and Typesetter: p8LcTx

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